

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following **Notice of Allowance** is in response to Applicant's submission received on 12/01/2009.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Wu on January 12, 2010.

In the Specification:

Abstract:

The Abstract has been amended as follows:

A computer readable storage medium encoded with a project assessment program for assessing a project including a plurality of processes when executed by a computer computing forecasts of the project based on a set of information. At least one scheme by a user input is selected from a group of schemes including an estimation of mutual-correlation of estimated value pattern. Process planning information, up-to-date actual process information and forecast model information of each process included in

Art Unit: 3624

the project is retrieved. The forecast model information of each process of the project is defined as probability distribution variations of a plurality of parameters of the processes, wherein the probability distribution variations are quantitative values of the project. Estimated values of variations in at least two parameters of the processes using the process planning information, the up-to-date actual process information and the forecast model information are computed.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1 – 7 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art to the claimed invention is Koller et al., US 2002/0103793, (herein Koller), in view of Njemanze et al., US 7,219,239, (herein Njemanze). Koller discloses a computer readable storage medium that is encoded with multiple schema to execute a plurality of relational models that are used to map the probabilistic dependencies over data, data attributes, objects and the relations there between. One such scheme disclosed by Koller includes the claimed estimation of mutual-correlation of estimated value pattern that is applied to forecast information of each process within a project and joint distributions of the process is calculated. Further, Koller discloses a project assessment that identifies variants and describes the relationship of the variants given their attribute values and reference slots. In analogous art, Njemanze teaches

Art Unit: 3624

normalizing data according to a schema and a field or field value. Further the correlation rules engine taught by Njemanze provides information relating attributes of events from a plurality of sources. Further Njemanze teaches that event data is streamed, logged, normalized and parsed.

Neither Koller nor Njemanze alone or in combination with other arts of record disclose or teach determining a forecast model based on the probability distribution variations that are determined by using standard normalized random numbers computed by a Molo algorithm where a mutual-correlation between the sequence X and the sequence Y is computed to assess how high the mutual-correlation is, to find the estimated values of the variations by following equation: $(\text{Mutual-Correlation}) = E((X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))) / (\sqrt{V(X)}\sqrt{V(Y)})$ wherein, ensemble averages of the sequences X and Y are defined as $E(X)$ and $E(Y)$, and square variances of the sequences X and Y are defined as $V(X)$ and $V(Y)$, respectively.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **Brett Feeney** whose telephone number is **571.270.5484**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30am-6:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, **BRAD BAYAT** can be reached at **571.272.6704**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair> . Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866.217.9197** (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to **571-273-8300**.

Art Unit: 3624

Hand delivered responses should be brought to the **United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window:**

Randolph Building

401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314.

/BRETT FEENEY/
Examiner, Art Unit 3624

/Romain Jeanty/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3624
February 10, 2010